

Remarks

In the subject Action, the Examiner rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the reasons set forth below.

Claim 12 has been amended to recite that while the cranks are rotating, adjustments are made to the crank diameter as a function of the rotational velocity of the cranks. Applicants respectfully submit that this claim limitation is inherent in the crank adjustment assembly designated as 808 in Figure 18.

On each side of the crank adjustment assembly 808, a crank pin 846 is arranged to rotate about a common crank shaft 820. A knob 848 is operatively connected to the crank pins 846 and rotatable to change a crank diameter defined between the two pins. Plungers 881 and 882 are movably mounted on the frame 810 and selectively movable into a path traversed by the knob 848 (in order to rotate the knob 848 upon contact therewith).

The knob 848 passes the location of the plungers 881 and 882 once per revolution of the crank pin 846. If the assembly 808 is arranged as shown in Figure 18, and the knob 848 is rotating about the crank shaft 820 at one revolution per minute, then adjustments to the crank diameter are made once per minute. On the other hand, if the assembly 808 is arranged as shown in Figure 18, and the knob 848 is rotating about the crank shaft 820 at two revolutions per minute, then adjustments to the crank diameter are made twice per


minute. In other words, adjustments to the crank diameter are made as a function of the rotational velocity of the cranks.

Next, the Examiner rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by the cited patent to Rodgers. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the reasons set forth below.

Claim 11 has been amended to emphasize that the cranks are rotating while adjustments to the crank diameter are made at least once per revolution. Applicant respectfully submits that the cited Rodgers patent does not teach or suggest contemporaneous operation of the machine and adjustment of the crank diameter.

Having addressed the issues raised in the subject Action, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is always welcome to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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